



Washington Park East News

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

Spring 2014 Vol. 39 No. 2

Listen, Learn, and Lend a Hand: Come to Hear the Speakers at Upcoming WPENA Meetings

APRIL 8 - Presentation of Alley Dumpster Removal Plans and Review of New Police Precinct:

Denver's Solid Waste Division Operations Manager Charlotte Pitt will discuss the city's plans to remove the dumpsters from alleys and replace them with individual bins for trash collection. Also at the April WPENA monthly meeting Commander Joe Montoya from the Denver Police District Three present information about the new district boundaries for District Three, as well as a report on recent burglaries in our area. District Three is now set up with six precincts. The #321 precinct that was Washington Park East has been changed to #312 and has increased in size.

MAY 13 (WPENA Annual Meeting) - Graduate Students to Report Results of Overlay Study:

University of Colorado Denver graduate students from the College of Architecture and Planning have taken on a zoning issue for a group of residents who have proposed an overlay district for portions of our neighborhood. The overlay district would be to limit development to building forms and to follow approaches more consistent with the original character of the neighborhood (see www.WashParkOverlay.com). The students have met with the concerned neighbors to understand their objective and with city planners and builders working in the neighborhood. These students have put together their own set of zoning rules based on the input of all three concerned groups. To test this new set of rules, each student has designed a house for a lot in the neighborhood. Come see the results at the meeting in May!

16th Annual Wash Park Home Tour



**Saturday, May 10, 2014
from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

Begin at any home on the tour!

This annual event benefitting Steele Elementary School showcases 5 distinctive homes in different styles located on the east side of Washington Park. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased in advance directly from a Steele student, online, or at Steele Elementary. Tickets can be purchased for \$25 on the day of the event at any home on the Tour or the designated Street Fair location.

For more details or to purchase tickets, go online to www.WashParkHomeTour.org

Upcoming WPENA Events...



WPENA Monthly Meeting: Tuesday, April 8 at St. John's Church starting at 7 p.m. These are always open meetings and everyone is welcome to attend!

WPENA Annual Meeting: Tuesday, May 13 at St. John's Church starting at 7 p.m. Selection of 2014-2015 board members; special presentation on neighborhood overlay project.

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) Meetings: Monthly meetings are held the second Saturday of every month. Go online to www.DenverINC.org for more information.

Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) Meetings: Monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month starting at 6 p.m. at the District Three police station, 1625 S. University Blvd. (near I-25). Go online to www.denvergov.org/District_3_Station for more information.

Alley Clean-Up: April 26. Help support residents in maintaining an attractive safe urban environment (see page 7 for details on OUR event).

Happy Hour: May 29, 7-9 p.m. at WP Croquet Fields. Come gather with neighbors and the group, Jiminy Wicket (JiminyWicket.org), to learn how to play croquet. No experience needed, come join in the fun!

July 4th Celebration: July 4. Make plans to attend this annual event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Boathouse.

WPENA Annual Neighborhood-Wide Yard Sales: Aug. 2. Email your name and street address to WPENAonline@gmail.com to be added to the map of participants.

WPENA Board Members:

Joanne Asher, Crime and Safety
Lance Clem, By-Laws
Oza Klanjsek, Secretary
John Kudrycki
Biddie Labrot, Treasurer, Zoning
Larry Larsen
Raphael Martorello
Lance Musselman, By-Laws
Darrell Oliver
Susan Payne, Membership
Lori Poole, Communication
Steve Skalski, President

Monthly association meetings are open to any WPENA resident or business owner and are held every second Tuesday starting at 7 p.m. at St. John's Church (corner Exposition and Gilpin streets) in the rear meeting room near the back parking lot area. Elections to the board are scheduled annually in May.

Questions? Comments?

Email the board members at WPENAonline@gmail.com or read more association information on the official WPENA website at www.WPENAonline.org. If you are interested in writing or helping with the newsletter, please contact Lori Poole at WPENAonline@gmail.com.

Thank you to our advertisers for their continued support!

If you are interested in advertising, please send an email to WPENAonline@gmail.com or look online at www.WPENAonline.org for more information.

www.WPENAonline.org
WPENAonline@gmail.com

WPENA MONTHLY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For a full report of monthly meeting minutes and the most current treasurer's report, please go online to www.WPENAonline.org and look under the Meeting & Board Information link of the main menu.

Jan. 14: Julie Carton with the Department of Environmental Health spoke about the Denver Energy Home Audit Program and the Denver Energy Challenge (for more information: www.DenverEnergy.org). WPENA by-law revisions were discussed.

Feb. 11: Discussion continued on by-law revisions. INC report was discussed. Plans for 2014 we discussed, as well as a guest speaker for upcoming meetings.

March 11: Planning on upcoming speakers; membership drive results; newsletter production discussed.

Please make plans to come to an upcoming WPENA monthly meeting: April 8, May 13, June 10. ALL residents are invited, welcomed, and needed!

Spring is Here, Spring into Action

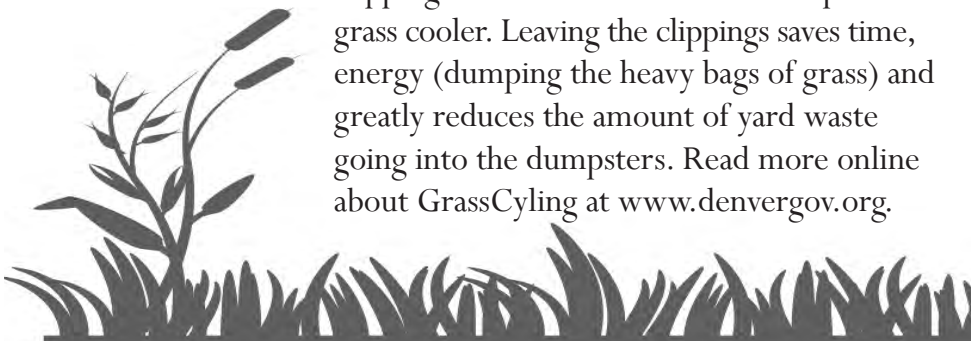
By Betty Cahill, GardenPunchList.blogspot.com

It's time to think about the early spring garden chores, the ones that don't take too much time, effort or strain on the pocket book. And there's nothing finer than being outside on sunny, 60 degree days enjoying the sound of birds and a quiet neighborhood. Hurry up because lawn mower noise arrives soon.

Clean and spruce up your landscape. Rake up leaves and twigs that have remained since fall or blown in from the winter. Use the raked pile and toss it into your compost pile or the green bin provided by the City (small fees apply). Making your own compost takes some time, but the end result is preferred to the store bought bagged products. Find more on building or purchasing a compost bin at www.denvergov.org.

Give GrassCycling a try! Everyone wants a healthy lawn, and this is the year to have one. By leaving your mowed grass clippings on your lawn, called GrassCycling, you will be returning valuable nutrients back to the soil. Plus you'll save water because the

clippings are full of moisture and keep the grass cooler. Leaving the clippings saves time, energy (dumping the heavy bags of grass) and greatly reduces the amount of yard waste going into the dumpsters. Read more online about GrassCycling at www.denvergov.org.



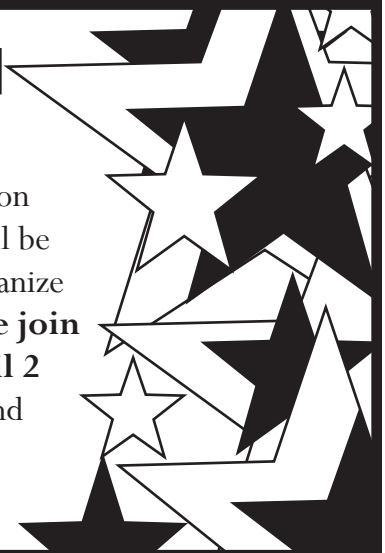
LEARN TO COMPOST!

In partnership with Denver Recycles, Denver Urban Gardens offers free classes in composting several times a month from April through October. All public compost classes are hosted at the compost demonstration site at our Gove Community Garden, located at 13th and Colorado in Denver. All workshops will be open for registration one month before each class date. Go online to dug.org/compost for more details and to register.



ANNUAL JULY 4TH CELEBRATION *Organizer, Volunteers and Planners Needed!*

For the past decade, July 4th has been a time for residents of both Washington Park East and West to join together for fun in the park. This year's event will be held Friday, July 4 at the boathouse. We need residents to help plan and organize this event. **If you would like to help with the July 4th event, please join other volunteers for the next planning meeting Wednesday, April 2 from 7 to 8 p.m. at St. John's Church.** If you can't make the meeting and would like to help at the day of July 4th event, please send an email to WPENAonline@gmail.com for more details.



Dear Zoey Zoning

Dear Zoey,

I live on South Humboldt near the new apartment buildings. We have many leased duplexes with lots of folks living in several of them. With the addition of the apartment units and several renters per house we are experiencing a lot of traffic, not to mention it is very hard to find a parking space when I get home after a long day at work. Is there a rule on how many can live in one house and how many cars per home are allowed to park on the street?

Signed, *Looking for Parking in All the Wrong Spaces*

Dear Looking,

Denver has regulations for the number of cars, as well as the number of unrelated persons living in the same house. In a single unit zone district, two unrelated persons per household are allowed; and with a home occupation permit, an additional unrelated person is allowed. In a multi-unit zone district, four unrelated persons per household are allowed; and with a home occupation permit, two additional unrelated persons are allowed.



The basic rule for Denver households is that residents are allowed one vehicle per licensed driver, plus one extra vehicle. For example, a household consisting of three licensed drivers may have up to four vehicles at the residence. Additional cars would be considered in violation of the code. If you feel your neighbors are in not compliance you may call 3-1-1 and file a complaint with the city, and they will send an inspector out to investigate.

Yours in Zoning, *Zoey*

Traffic Update

By *Susan Payne*

Spring is upon us, meaning there will be even more walkers, runners, and bicyclers in our neighborhood. You may have wondered why there are so many different designations for crossing zones and what to do when you encounter them. There are single limit lines at intersection with four-way stop signs like the intersection of E. Virginia Ave. and S. Franklin St., lined crosswalks at E. Virginia Ave. and S. Marion Pkwy., lined crosswalks at S. Franklin St. and E. Dakota Ave. but no stop signs, and many other iterations.

Traffic Engineering Services of Denver Public Works Department is responsible for making all decisions for Denver streets; whereas Denver Parks and Recreation is responsible for traffic designations in the Park. Crosswalk designations and placement of stop signs are set by need as determined by the transportation engineer assigned to each location. The engineer takes into account the actual speed and volume of traffic, pedestrian needs, location of other nearby traffic controls, such as lights, stop signs, crosswalks. The Department is open to input from the community and will make a final decision based on an overall evaluation.

Bicycles are considered vehicles, are governed by the same laws as automobiles, and must travel in the same direction as cars. In the City of Denver, bicycles are not allowed on sidewalks unless designated as a bike route. Also, bicycles are required to have a front light, red tail reflector, as well as side lights or reflectors.

Pedestrians have the right-of-way at all crosswalks. However, pedestrians should not suddenly leave a curb and walk or run into the path of a moving vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard. The bottom line is that both pedestrians and vehicles should be aware of those around them and be safe!

From the President

By Steve Skalski

YOUR Washington Park East Neighborhood Association will be holding its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 13 starting at 7 p.m. There will be two key agenda items at this meeting that you will not want to miss:

❶ First, WPENA member and instructor of architecture at The University of Colorado Denver, Cameron P. Kruger, and his students will be presenting home designs that would comply with the proposed Northeast Wash Park Conservation Overlay for the purpose of educating the community on what would be possible given the proposed zoning changes. The affected boundaries are Alameda Ave. to the north, Exposition Ave. to the south, S. Gilpin to the west and S. York St. to the east. Please come and see what creative alternatives Cameron's students have come up with. Visit www.WashParkOverlay.com for more information on the proposed Northeast Washington Park Conservation Overlay.

❷ Second, WPENA will hold elections for a new Board that will oversee WPENA activities commencing in June 2014 and running through May 2015. Now is the time to get involved! My involvement with being on WPENA's Board has been extremely rewarding. I have gotten to know neighbors who I probably would have never met had it not been for WPENA. I have formed a deep appreciation for their commitment to our community through their hard work and thoughtful contributions to our committees and sponsored activities. I have personally gotten to know our Councilman Charlie Brown and understand how he is able to help WPENA help our community.

If you are looking for a rewarding experience, please consider joining our Board! I invite you to come to our April 8 meeting at St. John's and ask questions of the current Board regarding what is required. You then can join us again at our 7 p.m. May 13 meeting when elections will be held.

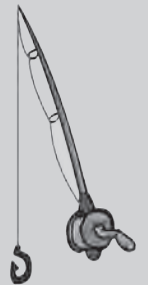
From the Park

By Cindy Johnstone

Grasmere Lake: The new natural area and wetland plants project for Grasmere Lake is slated to begin in March starting with our own WP maintenance staff, led by Mike Keyser, installing a new low water irrigation system in the area surrounding the lake. The next step is grading, removal of plants and weeds that have become invasive and the planting of new wetland plants and upland grasses. The project's goals include establishing a transitional environment around the lake from traditional lawn to lower maintenance grasses and establishing wetland plants at the edge and into Grasmere to benefit water quality. Additional benefits include low water vegetation, naturalization around the lake, diversity of vegetation, increased diversity of fauna and perhaps, a decrease attraction for geese in the area around the lake. Fences and geese prevention grids will be temporarily placed until the grasses and plants are established. The fences may remain for one or two seasons.

Road Safety: The park road safety project has begun with FANS, Denver Parks and Rec, RNO representatives and bicycle representatives working together to develop a comprehensive and coordinated process and plan addressing the road safety issues in Washington Park. There will be several public meetings for input, user surveys, and stakeholder meetings to move forward a plan to decrease conflict with park access and park road use and improve safety for everyone who uses the park.

8th Annual Youth Fishing Derby: This FANS-sponsored event will be held June 10 at Washington Park Lily Pond and is open to youth 5 to 14 years old. Registration is at the Wash Park Rec Center starting May 1 (limited space). Rods and bait are provided by Denver Parks and Recreation. School will be out, the pond will be stocked, and there will be fun for all. For more details visit FANSWashingtonPark.org



CRIME & SAFETY TIPS

By Joanne Asher

All residents are invited to come hear **DPD District Three Commander Joe Montoya at the April 8 WPENA monthly meeting.** Commander Montoya will be discussing the surge in burglaries in homes and garages throughout WPE, as well as our surrounding neighbors in West Wash Park and Cory-Merrill.

WELCOME to Officer Sharon Avendano the new Community Resource Officer assigned to District Three. Officer Avendano will be responsible for the west side of District Three from the west side of South University Blvd. The contact information for Officer Avendano is: 720-913-1248 or 720-737-0739; email Sharon.Avendano@denvergov.org. Officer Avendano wants WPE to know that “if you see something say something.”

GET INVOLVED ONLINE: Sign-up for these informational sites to get regular crime updates:

- www.NextDoor.com: The Denver Police Department and District Three, as well as WPE residents, use this websites to send out crime alerts.
- www.SpotCrimes.com: Receive daily updates on crime with in a five mile radius. You can even download the SpotCrime app for your smart phone.
- www.facebook.com/DenverPDDistrictThree: Follow crime updates.
- www.denvergov.org/crimestats: Research crime stats for WPE and other areas in the city.



GET INVOLVED & ATTEND the monthly CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD (CAB) for reviews of crime in our area. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month starting at 6 p.m. at the District Three police station, 1625 S. University Blvd. (near I-25).

Follow them on facebook at www.facebook.com/DenverPdDistrictThree

Upcoming CAB Meetings: April 10 (note change in date), May 6, June 3

Interested in volunteering to organize, write for, or design the WPENA quarterly newsletter?

We are in need of volunteers to help with the production of our newsletter. If you are interested, please email WPENAonline@gmail.com or come to an upcoming monthly meeting to learn more!

Your Wash Park Neighbor and Steele School Parent



Barb Perruccio
Broker/Owner

303.241.2830

Barb@GreatPlaceRealEstate.com



My goal is to build strong relationships in our community one person at a time!

Whether you are buying or selling a home, please consider me as your Realtor.
Together, we will find your perfect home — a Great Place to live!

The finest compliment I can ever receive is a referral to one of your friends, relatives or co-workers.

www.GreatPlaceRealEstate.com

Mark your calendar & save the date for the annual GREAT DENVER (and WPENA Alley) CLEANUP! One day only: Saturday, April 26, 2014

Each week Solid Waste Management crews make their rounds, collecting trash and recycling from curbsides and alleyways. At other scheduled times Solid Waste collects large items such as unwanted appliances and furniture as well as household chemicals. But this only happens once a year.

Take advantage of FREE drop sites on Saturday, April 26. Collection trucks will be set up around the city of Denver for residents to bring excess household debris: couches, mattresses, appliances without Freon, yard waste and more for FREE disposal and recycling. NO televisions or electronics.



Want to clean YOUR alley? Need bags for collections in YOUR alley? Come to the April 8 meeting to get some bags and more information on being part of the WPENA neighborhood-wide alley clean up.

E-waste Banned from Disposal in Colorado Landfills in 2013

The City of Denver collects over 256,000 tons of trash at Denver homes each year. That's an average of 1.6 tons per household a year. Denver uses an integrated collection strategy to recycle or dispose of waste in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Properly and responsibly recycling electronic equipment is very important. Electronics contain a variety of harmful and in some cases even toxic substances, that when discarded, can pose risks to our health and the environment. As of July 1, 2013, in accordance with Colorado's Electronic Recycling Jobs Act which bans the disposal of electronic waste in Colorado landfills, the City can no longer accept electronic devices in the trash.

South High School is scheduled to be one of the local drop-off sites on April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. larger items. Find a full list of drop site locations and a list of acceptable and non-acceptable items online at www.denvergov.org, search for "Keep Denver Beautiful." Or for more information, call 3-1-1 for complete list of acceptable items.

MEMBERSHIP DUES = SUPPORT WPENA!

We are still collecting WPENA membership dues for 2014. WPENA is made up of hundreds of neighbors, dozens of local businesses, nonprofits, churches, and elected officials. All work together to keep Washington Park East a great neighborhood...but we need YOUR help!

WPENA annual dues are \$20 per household (\$10 for seniors) and help support regular business activity, annual celebrations, printing of our newsletter, maintenance of our website and other administrative cost. Please use the form on the back of this newsletter to submit your (voluntary but very appreciated) dues. Or come to the WPENA annual meeting on Tuesday, May 13 at St. John's Church and pay in person!

**Check us out online at www.WPENAOonline.org. Follow us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/Washington-Park-East-Neighborhood-Association-WPENA**

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE PARK?

For a full list of permitted park events, visit www.denvergov.org.

2nd Annual FANS Photo Contest

FANS is holding its second annual Washington Park Photo Contest. Entries will be accepted starting April 22 thru June 6. This is an opportunity to showcase your talents in finding unique views of Washington Park. All proceeds from the contest will go back to the park. Winners will receive prizes and be exhibited at the Washington Park Boathouse July 4th Celebration. Visit FANSWashingtonPark.org for photos of last year's winners and to enter the 2014 event.

guaranteedRate[®]

The Home Purchase Experts[™]

WASHINGTON PARK BRANCH

Providing Mortgages to Wash Park Residents for Over 17 Years

Mention this ad and receive a

Closing Cost Credit*
in the amount of \$150

- ✓ No Origination Fees
- ✓ No Closing Cost Options
- ✓ Low Rates and Fees



Regional Vice President of Mortgage Lending
P: 303.861.5402
derek@guaranteedrate.com
guaranteedrate.com/derekbamonte

*Credit valid for applications submitted after 11.18.2013 and prior to 12.31.2014. Coupon must be presented at time of application. \$150 credit will be applied at time of closing. Borrower subject to credit approval. If loan does not close for any reason, costs will not be refunded. This offer and/or receipt of borrower's application does not represent an approval for financing or interest rate guarantee. This coupon cannot be redeemed for cash, has no cash value. Restrictions may apply. Contact Guaranteed Rate for current rates or more information.

NMLS (National Mortgage Licensing System) ID: 2611 • CO - Guaranteed Rate, Inc. Regulated by the Division of Real Estate, 773-290-0505 • NMLS ID: 22303210 LIC: CO - 100007613 - Licensed • 724 S. Pearl St, Denver, CO 80209

WPENA Annual Dues

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association (WPENA) is made up of thousands of neighbors, dozens of local businesses, nonprofits, churches, and local elected officials. All of us work together to keep Wash Park East a great neighborhood...but we need YOUR help! WPENA annual dues are \$20 per household (\$10 for seniors) and help support regular business activity, annual celebrations, production of our newsletters, website maintenance, and other administrative cost.

To support your neighborhood organization, please fill out the info below and send dues payable to WPENA, 472 S. High St., Denver/80209.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

I would like to help with the following WPENA volunteer positions (check all that apply):

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> website | <input type="radio"/> newsletter | <input type="radio"/> event volunteer (yard sale, July 4th) |
| <input type="radio"/> zoning issues | <input type="radio"/> safety & crime issues | <input type="radio"/> traffic/transportation |

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS: _____

Thank you for your support!